

SECRET/CONTROL

MGB-A- 4130

CHIEF

12 June 1949

Chief, Educator ATTN: ☐ ☐
Chief of Station, Karlsruhe
Distribution of Ost-Telegraf editions

1. At present 35,000 copies of the weekly East German edition of the Telegraf are printed in Berlin and distributed in the Soviet Zone. It is expected that this number will be increased to 40,000 within two weeks. Of the small edition of Die Neue Zeitung, 20,000 copies are distributed together with the Telegraf.

2. The issue of 16 April had to be omitted because some members of the organization Group Garull had been arrested in the Soviet Sector of Berlin and all other members who were known by the arrested had to be eliminated. The distribution system was reorganized so that each participant therein knows only three others and has no connection whatsoever with the regular Telegraf personnel.

3. Of the 35,000 copies, 8,000 are kept in Berlin and distributed from there through the following channels:

a. Copies are left openly on all stations in the Western Sectors to trains which are travelling into the Soviet Zone.

b. Papers are put in packages on freight trains, especially on those going empty to the Senftenberg coal area, where the packages are recovered by members of the distribution organization and handed out among the workers. So far, this method has worked excellently, without incident.

c. Papers are left on the stations in the Eastern Sector in envelopes. No untoward incidents have occurred to date through the use of this arrangement.

d. Copies are deposited on twelve trucks going regularly from Berlin to the Eastern Zone. The drivers sell them and keep the money for themselves.

Distribution:

3 - ☐ ☐
2 - FBW
1 - COS
1 - FCB
2 - BOB

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DATE 2007

e. Editions are sent by mail to all the better-known SED functionaries in the Zone, particularly in the Province of Brandenburg, with Berlin SED functionaries listed as senders. These letters are mailed from post offices in the Soviet Sector. One incident has occurred in which one of the members of the distribution organization was arrested while bringing some of these envelopes to a post office in the Soviet Sector. It is presumed that this happened, however, only because he first stopped at a former Telegraf office and was therefore searched. The incident was not without its brighter side, however, since it afforded proof to the Soviet Sector police of the unreliability of some of the SED leaders: none of them had ever stated that he was receiving the East Zone edition by mail.

f. Copies are mailed in packages using the Tribune envelopes. In one instance 8,000 papers were sent directly from the Berlin office of the Tribune together with copies of this paper.

4. The remainder of the East Zone edition is sent to Frankfurt/Main by air and distributed from there as follows:

a. One man near Hof who has eighty newspaper vendors in Thüringen transports the papers by regular truck delivery to post offices in the Soviet Zone from where the packages are mailed to the vendors through cover addresses.

b. A man located near Fulda who has thirty-five vendors, situated mainly in Thüringen, utilizes the same delivery process described in 4a above.

c. One member of the distribution organization is stationed at the autobahn near Hersfeld. He delivers papers by trucks traveling regularly on the autobahn. This system alone is used to dispatch approximately 10,000 papers each week together with additional copies of the Neue Zeitung.

d. Delivery is made by one man near Helmstedt through illegal border crossers. The main target of this distribution center are the industrial centers in Saxony.

e. One member of the organization near Lübeck, who has good connections with the local Volkspolizei, effects delivery by car across the border and on the ships sailing to Stettin, Königsberg, etc.

5. All members of this outlined distribution system, without exception, are people who have lived until now in the Soviet Zone. They are not registered with the police of the towns of the U.S. or British Zones in which they live. They know only CAMLET himself and are not acquainted with each other. All speak English and know personally the U.S. or British military policeman in charge of their section of the border and who have been fully informed by members as to their transactions. In two instances these Allied officials have given aid to members of the distribution organization when the latter were confronted by Western Zone German police.